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German Democratic Republic

PROCEDURE REGULATIONS FOR CONTRACT COURTS (6 pp; German; 6 March 1952)

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This document consists of [REDACTED] a 6-page typewritten report of the text of the Court Procedure Regulations for Contract Courts (Civil Courts) of 6 March 1952.

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Paragraph 1 of the Regulations provides for the setting up of arbitration commissions at the Contract Courts of the Federal and Laender governments of the GDR, and also states who is authorized to set the number of such commissions.

Paragraphs 2 and 3 provide for the composition of arbitration commissions and the selection of permanent members to them, and also for the selection of special advisors, when necessary.

Paragraphs 4, 5, 6, and 7 deal with procedures for initiating Contract Court actions.

Paragraphs 8 and 9 deal with procedures at the trial. The procedural rights and obligations of the plaintiff and the defendant are specified in these paragraphs.

Paragraph 10 authorizes the interpleader of third parties, such as organs of the people-owned economy, if such third parties have any interest whatever in the outcome of the trial.

Paragraphs 11 and 12 define the rights, duties, and powers of the State Contract Court and specify the types of decisions which this court is authorized to hand down.

Paragraph 13 specifies the documents to be submitted for institution of law suits arising out of disagreements in connection with contract litigations.

Paragraph 14 provides that a ruling on the eligibility of a case for trial under Paragraph 13 must be rendered within 6 days after filing of application for such trial and that, if the application is approved, the trial is to be held within two weeks after receipt of application.

Paragraphs 15 and 16 provide that the Contract Court must hold trials in the presence of representatives of the parties to the contract and that the decision is to be given immediately following the oral trial.

Paragraph 17 provides for cases where application for trial was made after expiration of the deadline for such applications, as determined by law.

Paragraphs 18 and 19 state where, when, and how judgments rendered by the Contract Court may be appealed and also states specific instances, when appeals may not be lodged.

Paragraph 20 refers to instances in which the decision of the court has not been complied with and specifies the remedies available to the prevailing party.

Paragraph 21, the last paragraph, states that each decision must include provisions for the costs of the trial. Punitive and disciplinary fines are to be paid to the state, fines for damages to the other party are to be paid to that party.

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